

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SOUTHERN REGION SUPPLEMENT 03-2003
APPLICABLE TO NWSI 10-313 and 314
SEPTEMBER 29, 2003***

***Operations and Services
Marine and Coastal Weather Services, NWSPD 10-3
Marine Weather, NWSI 10-313 and 10-314
COASTAL MARINE FORECAST SERVICES***

OPR: W/SR11x5 (M. Bailey)

Certified by: W/SR1 (S.Cooper)

Type of Issuance: Initial.

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS: None.

Signed by _____ Date Sept 15, 2003

Bill Proenza

Date

Director, Southern Region

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1. Description: Provides additional guidance and instructions for Special Marine Warnings (SMW) and Marine Weather Statements (MWS). Written instructions cannot address every situation. Operational personnel must exercise initiative and professional judgment to minimize risk to public safety and property in instances when written instructions do not provide appropriate guidance.
2. Special Marine Warnings. Reference Section 2.2.2 of 10-313.
 - a. Valid Time. SMW's should be issued for local winds of 34 knots or greater that are expected to occur for 2 hours or less; and/or hail 3/4 inch or more in diameter; and/or waterspouts. For some weather situations, one hour or less may be more appropriate to provide users frequent updated information of rapidly changing convection. If conditions necessitate a valid time of the SMW in excess of two hours, a MWS should be issued throughout the event so the information for the users does not become out-dated (see section 4.c below).
 - b. Do not headline a SMW in the Coastal Waters Forecast (CWF) product.
3. Marine Weather Statements. MWSs provide the public with detailed marine weather information. Specifically, MWS are used:
 - a. To Cancel a SMW. Reference Sections 2.4 of 10-313 and 2.2.2 of 10-314. MWS's should be used to cancel all or part of a SMW.
 - b. To notify a SMW has expired. Reference Sections 2.4 of 10-313 and 2.2.2. of 10-314.

Issue a MWS to provide notice a SMW has expired. Using forecaster discretion due to particular events, MWS's can be issued for the last of a series of SMW's, i.e. when the event is over, instead of when each SMW expires.
 - c. During a SMW. Reference Section 2.2.2 of 10-314.

MWS's or Short Term Forecasts can be issued midway through the valid period of a SMW, as time and staffing permit, to heighten the awareness of the potential hazard.